

CultureTalk Turkmenistan Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Family Traditions**

**Russian transcript:**

- Как вообще семья строятся?

- Ну, сейчас по-моему везде так что молодые сами выбирают. А в наше время было...ну в мое время, допустим, 50X50 было. 50 родители, 50 процентов молодые сами друг-друга находят. А раньше до нас, там вообще такого не было. Там родители нашли и не спрашивали, ты хочешь, не хочешь, вот тебе невеста, вот тебе жених и всё, поэтому...дела заканчивалось. Родительское слово было выше всего. Ну времена меняются и нравы тоже меняются. По сравнению с моими и...на сейчас, на данный момент разница очень большая. Я не знаю мои дети как будут, это ихняя проблема, конечно, ну, со своей стороны тоже будим подсказывать, если они примут, примут, не примут это ихни дело. Ну, я думаю в Туркменистане семья почему крепче, там традиционно сильно семейственность ааа...уже веками сложившаяся традиция, а здесь не знаю, здесь...я думаю в Туркменистане семейные узы сильнее чем здесь. Хотя я могу и ошибаться, ну по крайней мере то что я видел, то что было при мне и вот моя жизнь, там сильнее, семейные узы.

**English translation:**

- How are the families usually structured?

- Well, now I think it is the same everywhere; the young people choose [each other]. But in our times it was...well, in my time, for example, it was 50/50: 50 percent the parents, 50 percent the young people who find each other. But before us, there was no such thing at all then. Back then parents would find [someone], and would not even ask if you want [that person] or not; "here is a bride or here is a groom for you," and that was it. That's why...the business was done. The parents' word was above all. Well, times change, and customs change as well. If we compare mine and...now, the difference is huge. I do not know how my kids will do; it is their business, of course, well, from our side, we will try to prompt [advise]; if they want to accept, they will, if no, it is their business. Well, the reason why I think the families are stronger in Turkmenistan ... it is traditional, strong families, ah...tradition that had formed for centuries, but here I do not know, here...I think in Turkmenistan family bonds are stronger. Though I might be wrong, well, at least from what I saw, what was in front of me and my life, it is stronger there, family bonds.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

© 2003-2009 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated